Version 1.0
Translation of original instruction manual

Instruction manual

Software tool

FastStart 2.0

adstec
Industrial IT

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1 Notes

Relevant documentation

The following documentation is relevant for installation and use:

Instruction manual (this document):

Contains information on installation and operation of the software application as well as the requirements for its use.

Website

You can download drivers, software, user manuals, leaflets and flyers from the **Download** section of our website www.ads-tec.de.

1.1 Explanation of notes

Information:

The symbol "Information" indicates notes, terms and/or conditions that strictly need to be observed to ensure optimised and/or zero-defect operation. Tips and suggestions for the efficient use of the device and software optimisation are also provided.

1.2 Data, figures and modifications

All data, text and figures were prepared to the best of our knowledge. They do not represent any assurance for the properties themselves. Despite taking utmost care, no liability can be assumed for accuracy, completeness and actuality of the information. Subject to changes.

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2 FastStart 2.0 documentation

The software tool FastStart 2.0 is supplied as an installer package. It is used for graphical composition of the desktop interface and uses the integrated user and rights management of Windows.
FastStart is a program that offers shell functionalities for ads-tec embedded systems.

2.1 Supported hardware platforms

The ads-tec FastStart application contains both 32 bit and 64 bit components and can be installed on the following operating systems:

- Microsoft® Windows Embedded Standard 7
- Microsoft® Windows Embedded 8 Standard
- Microsoft® Windows Embedded 8.1 Industry Pro

The following command line parameters are relevant for operation of FastStart:

- Full-screen mode: With "/fullscreen", FastStart.exe starts without Chrome, i.e. borderless in full-screen mode like a Windows 8 app
- Shell: With "/shell", FastStart.exe starts in shell mode. The autostart programs are executed when FastStart is started

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3 Description

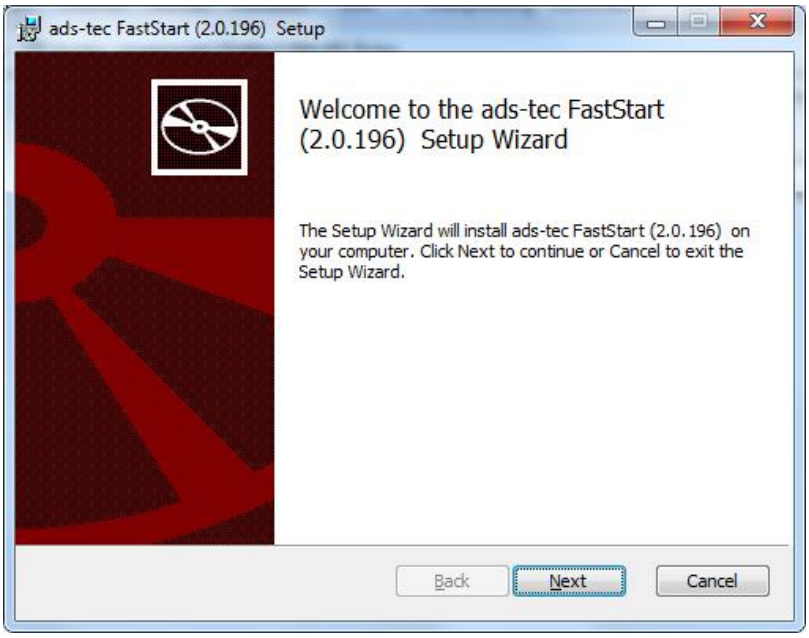
3.1 Program description

The following functionalities are included:

- Display of startable programs on an interface resembling the Windows 8 Launcher
- Display and operation functionality for control panel applets
- Configuration of the local hard drives for write filter technologies
- Autostart of programs

3.2 Installation

Execute the **setup file** of the FastStart application by **double-clicking** and then confirm with **Next**.


ads-tec FastStart (2.0.196) Setup
Welcome to the ads-tec FastStart (2.0.196) Setup Wizard
The Setup Wizard will install ads-tec FastStart (2.0.196) on your computer. Click Next to continue or Cancel to exit the Setup Wizard.
Back
Next
Cancel

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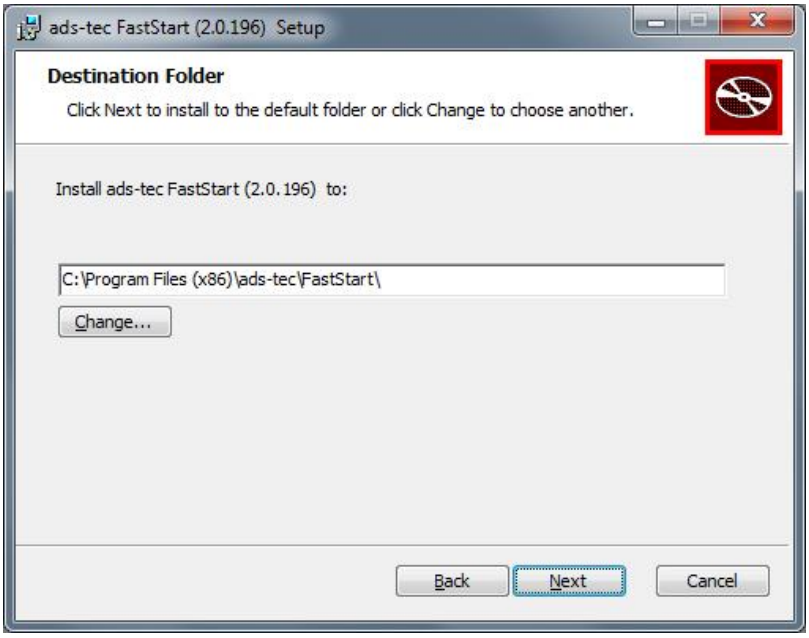
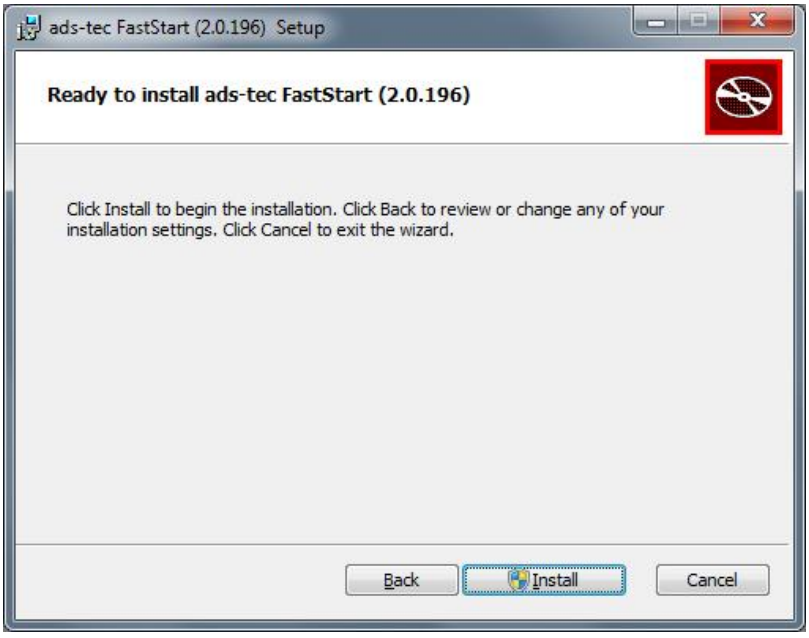
The installation path is displayed. This can be changed by clicking **Change**. Confirm with **Next**.



Installation can now be started by clicking **Install**.


ads-tec FastStart (2.0.196) Setup
Ready to install ads-tec FastStart (2.0.196)
Click Install to begin the installation. Click Back to review or change any of your installation settings. Click Cancel to exit the wizard.
Back
Install
Cancel

Information:
Administrator rights are required for installation.

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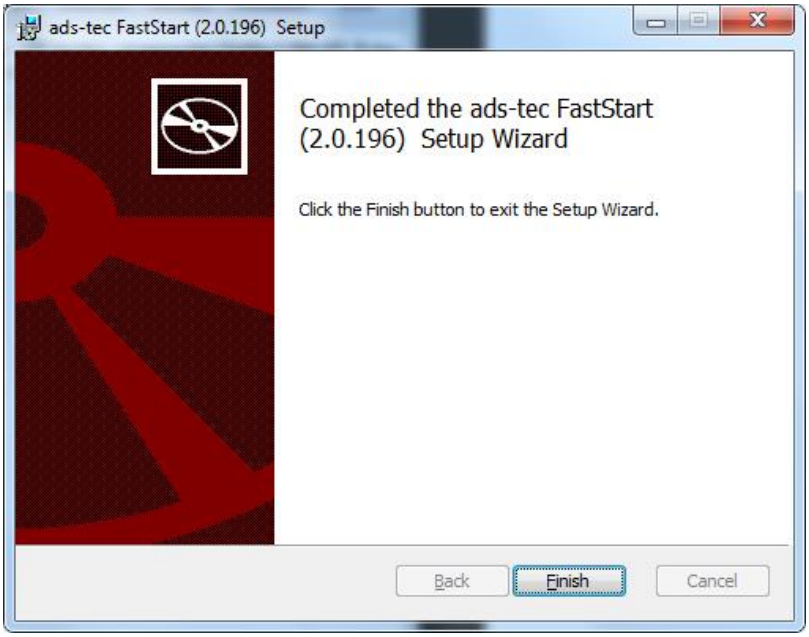
Following successful installation, you can close the setup wizard by clicking **Finish**.



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3.3 Command line parameters

The following command line parameters are relevant for operation of FastStart:

- Full-screen mode: With "/fullscreen", FastStart.exe starts without Chrome, i.e. borderless in full-screen mode like a Windows 8 app.
- Shell: With "/shell", faststart.exe starts in shell mode; the autostart programs are executed when FastStart is started

3.4 Setting up FastStart as shell

In order to use FastStart effectively, it should be configured as the "shell" for the typical user. After the user logs in at the system, the FastStart interface then appears instead of the usual desktop with shortcuts and the Start menu. FastStart can then be configured by a local administrator so that only specific applications can be called up by the default user.

If an application other than "explorer.exe" is to be configured as the shell for the user "FastUser", the value of the entry "Shell" must be set to the desired application in the registry path "[HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon]".

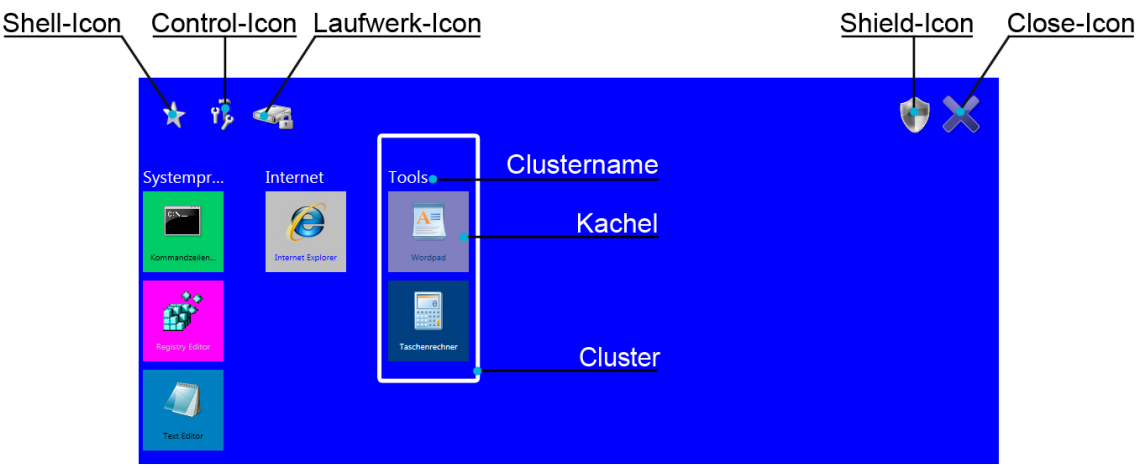
To do so, log in as the user "FastUser" and make the following change using the registry editor:

[HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon]

“Shell”=”C:\Program Files\ads-tec\Faststart\faststart.exe /fullscreen /shell”

This change causes FastStart to start as the shell as soon as the user "FastUser" is logged in.

3.5 Overview of desktop



Shell icon:

- Used to switch over to the shell view

Control icon:

- Used to access the control panel

Drive icon:

- Opens the view showing the drives and write filters

Shield icon:

- Allows access with elevated rights

Close icon:

- Closes the current application

Cluster name:

- Header of the cluster

Tile:

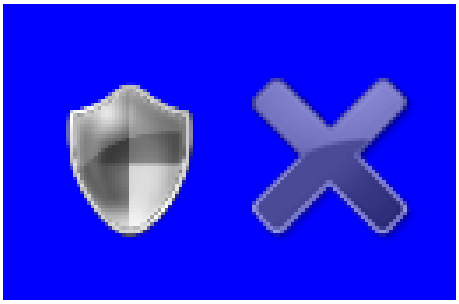
- Individual link

Cluster:

- Group of various tiles

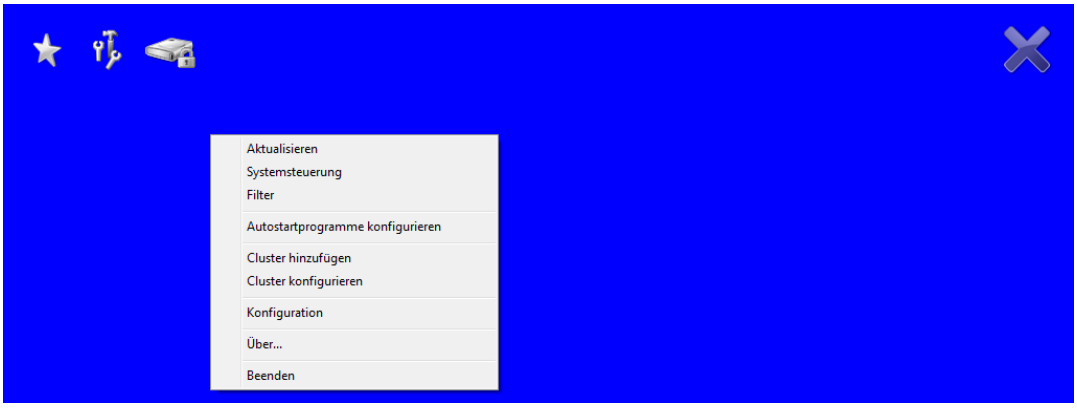
3.6 Initial startup of FastStart and configuration

When FastStart is started for the first time on a system by an unprivileged user (not administrative) or by a local administrator for whom User Account Control is active, the following icons will appear top right on the FastStart interface:



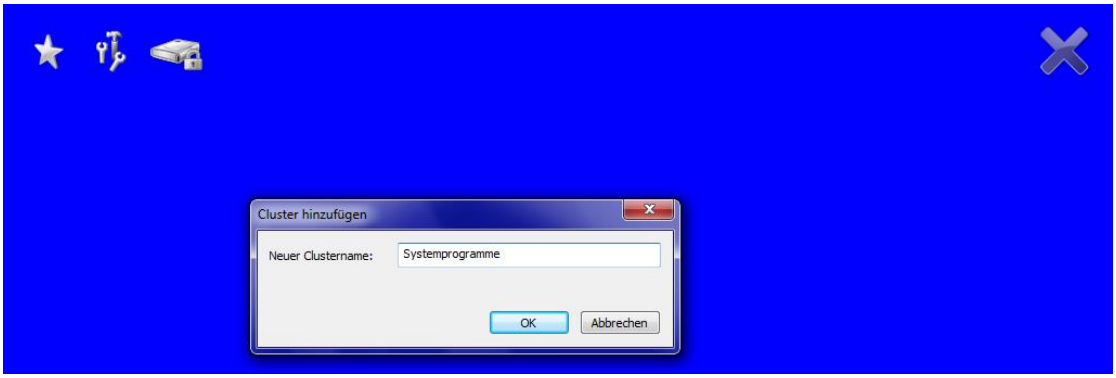
This view is referred to below as the shell view. The Close icon (right) is used to close the application. If the Shield icon (left) is clicked, the application is restarted with elevated access rights:

This is necessary in order to configure the application. The Shield icon is now no longer visible. This button is only available if the process is running without elevated access rights.
To configure, right-click the background. A context menu appears:



3.6.1 Creating clusters and tiles in shell view

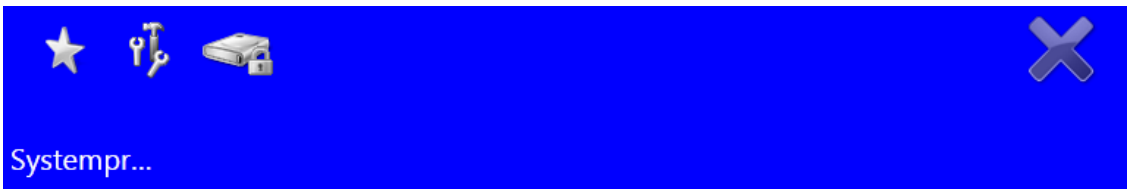
A cluster must be created before a startable program can be created. A set of associated programs can be grouped together in a cluster.
For the shell functionality, the cluster represents the smallest unit for which authorisations can be issued. To create a cluster, select the item "**Add Cluster**" in the context menu:



The name "**System programs**" is entered here as an example. In the text below, the aim is to create administration programs as individual tiles. The following tiles are then to be generated:

- Command line processor
- Editor
- Registry editor

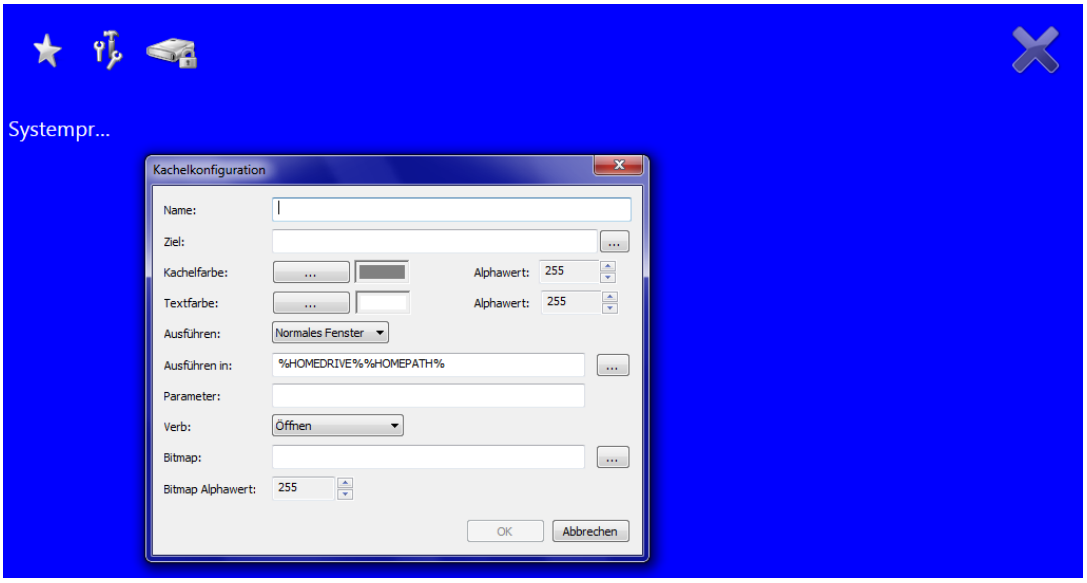
After the name "**System programs**" has been entered in this dialogue box and confirmed with **OK**, the cluster is created:



Due to its length, the text of the cluster is abbreviated with ellipsis points ("..."). A tile for starting a command prompt (cmd.exe) is now to be added to the cluster. To do so, right-click the text of the newly created cluster; the following context menu appears:

Here, select the menu item "**Add Tile to Cluster**".

The corresponding dialogue box appears:



The fields in this dialogue box have the following meaning:

Required field:

- Title: Name of the tile; this text appears on the tile
- Target: Path to the file to be started (document or executable)

Optional field:

- Tile color with Alpha value: Colour of the tile with transparency value (0 (transparent) – 255 (full opacity))
- Text color with Alpha value: Colour of the tile text with transparency value (0-255)
- Show: Used to specify the startup type of the document/program (normal, minimised, maximised)
- Directory: Working directory for the document/program.
- Parameters: Command line parameters for the document/program.
- Verb: Used to specify the shell command to be executed when the tile is clicked.
- Bitmap with Bitmap Alpha: Bitmap to be displayed on the tile, with transparency value. If this field is left empty, the default icon for the document/program is displayed

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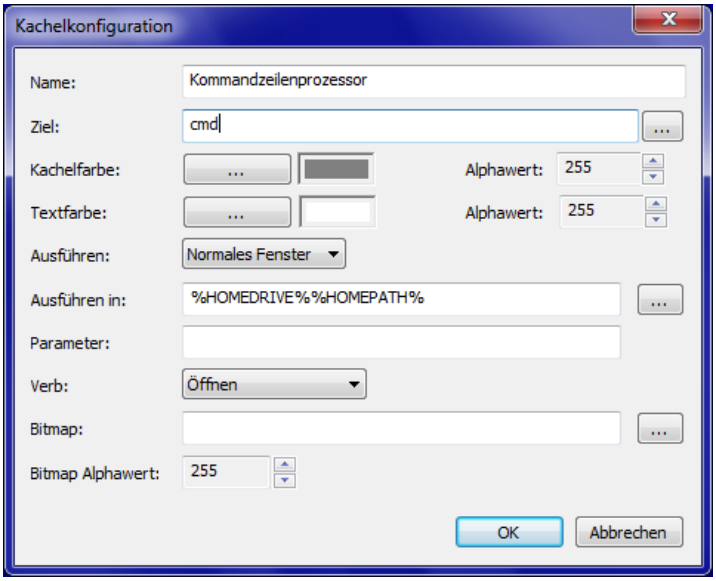
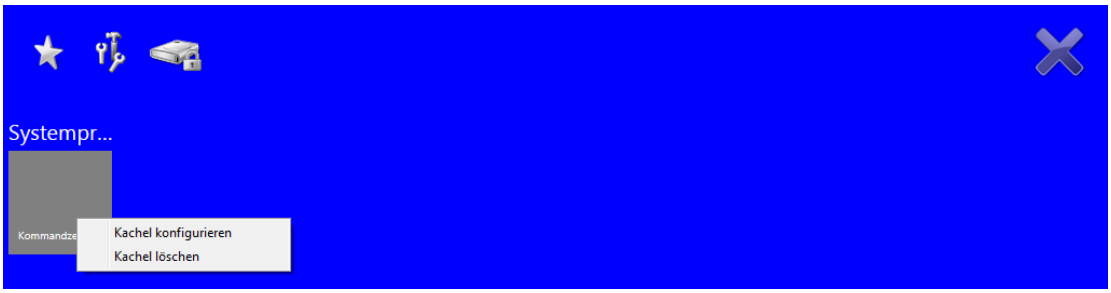
The following search path details are required in order to create the "Command line processor" tile; environment variables or the fully qualified path must be specified in the Directly field.



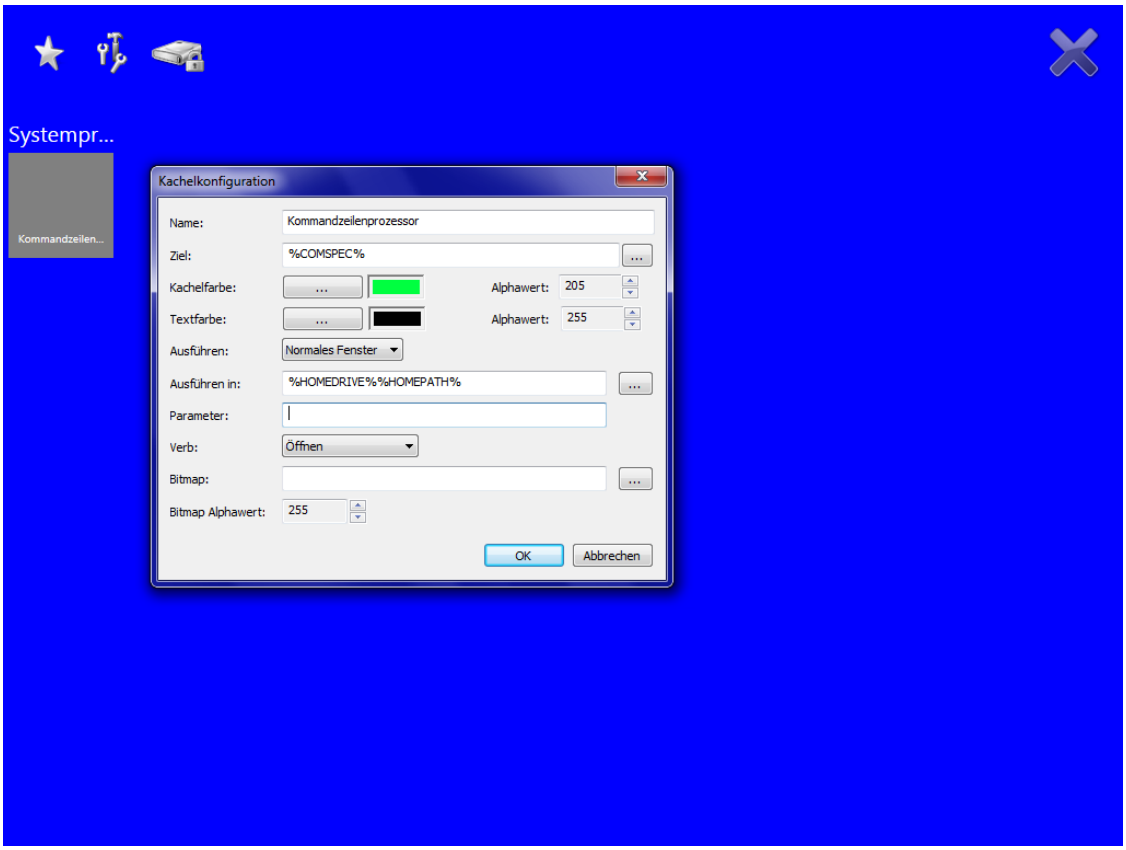
After the dialogue box is confirmed with **OK**, the tile is created as follows:

Clicking the tile starts the command line processor:

As you can see, the icon of the target program (cmd.exe) is not displayed here.
To correct this, the proper path of cmd.exe must be entered. This is usually **C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe.**
To do so, right-click the tile:

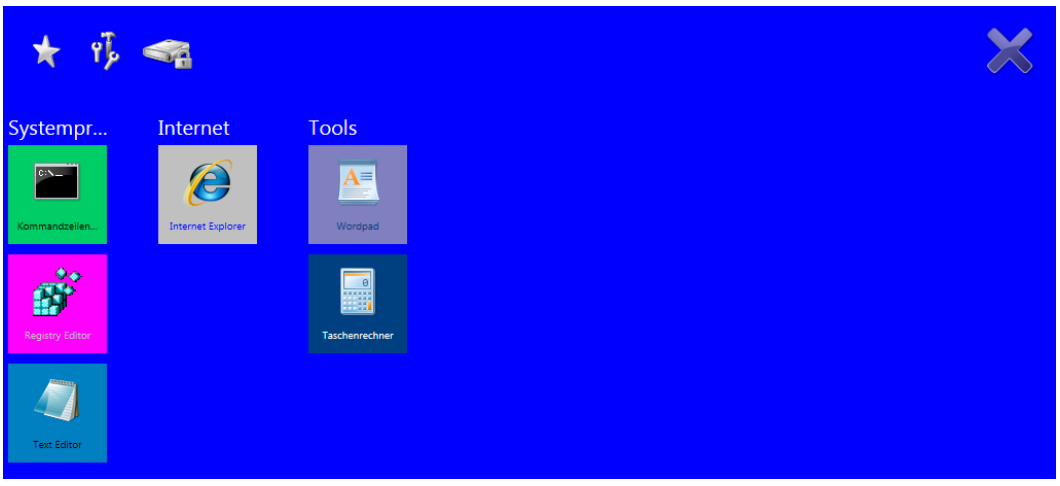


Select the menu item "**Configure Tile**". The dialogue window that appears is the same as that when creating the tile.
Since a corresponding environment variable "**ComSpec**" exists for the command line processor, it is worth taking advantage of FastStart's ability to evaluate environment variables of the relevant specifications for a tile and selecting additional colours using Alpha value:



After confirmation with **OK**, FastStart appears as shown in the figure below:

The same procedure can be used to create further clusters and tiles; FastStart then looks like the figure below:



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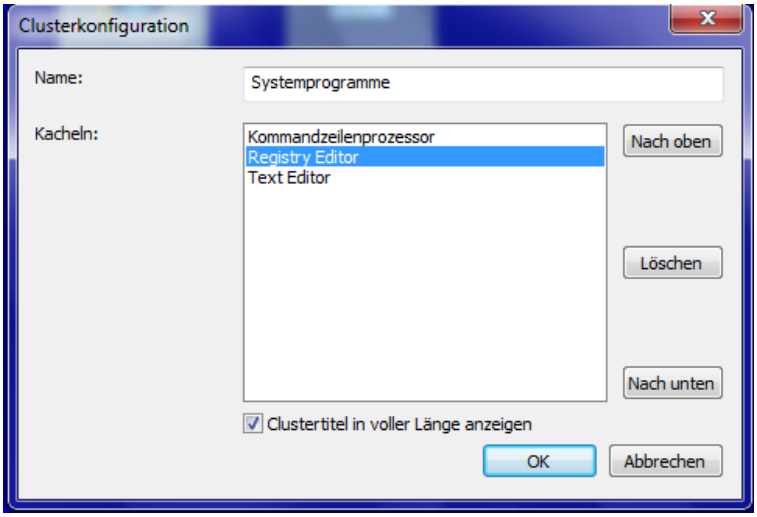
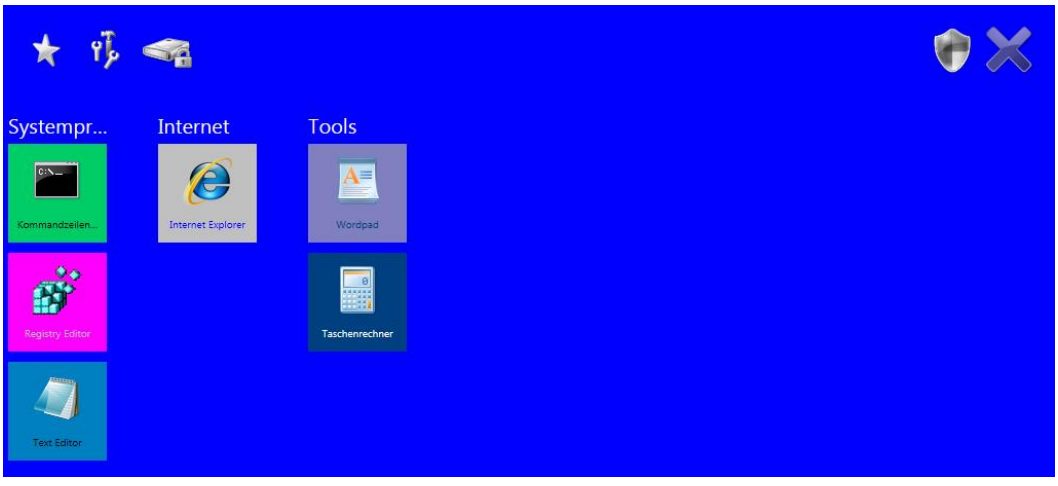
To change the order of the tiles in the first cluster and to adapt the cluster header with the ellipsis points ("..."), proceed as follows:
Right-click the cluster header, but select the menu item "**Configure Cluster**" in the context menu:



To move the registry editor from the second to the third position, select the entry "**Registry Editor**" in the list field and click the "**Down**" button once. Then set the "**Show cluster header in full width**" check mark so that the complete cluster header is displayed. Confirm the dialogue box with **OK**:



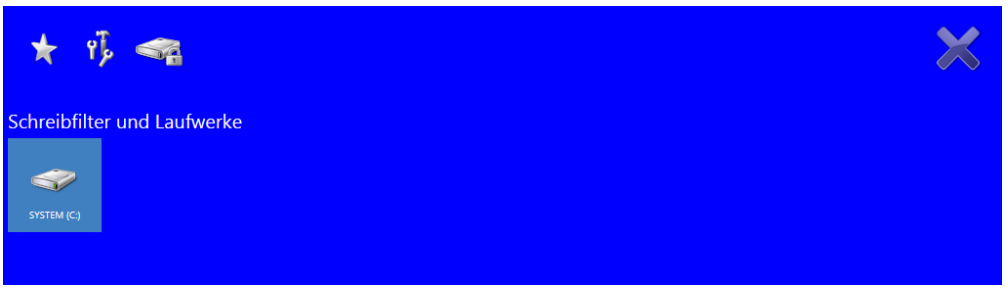
3.6.2 Control panel

Clicking the Tool icon opens the control panel view as shown in the following figure:

Clicking a tile then starts the associated control panel applet.
The display can be scrolled easily by swiping the background horizontally. This can be done by touch operation, by dragging the background with the mouse and also using the bottom scroll bar.

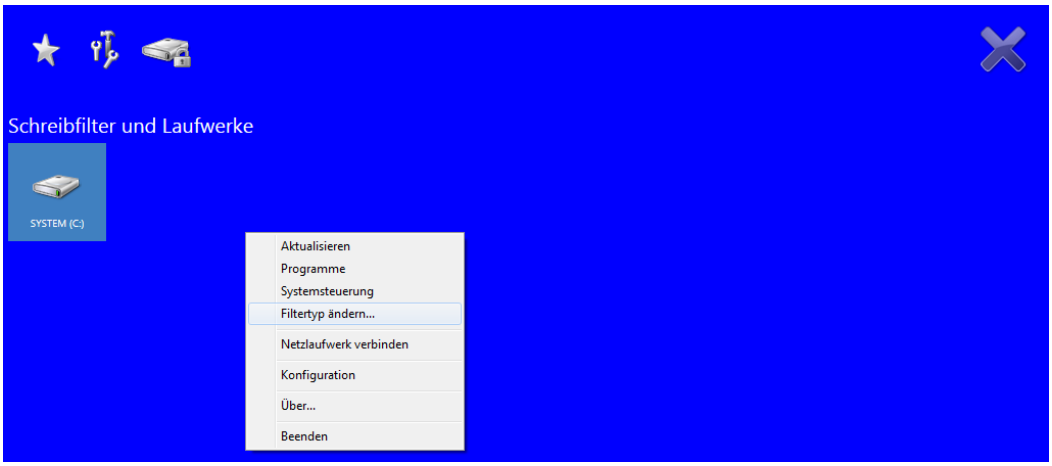
3.6.3 Drive view and write filters

Clicking the Drive icon opens the view displaying the drives and write filters:



3.6.3.1 Configuration of write filters

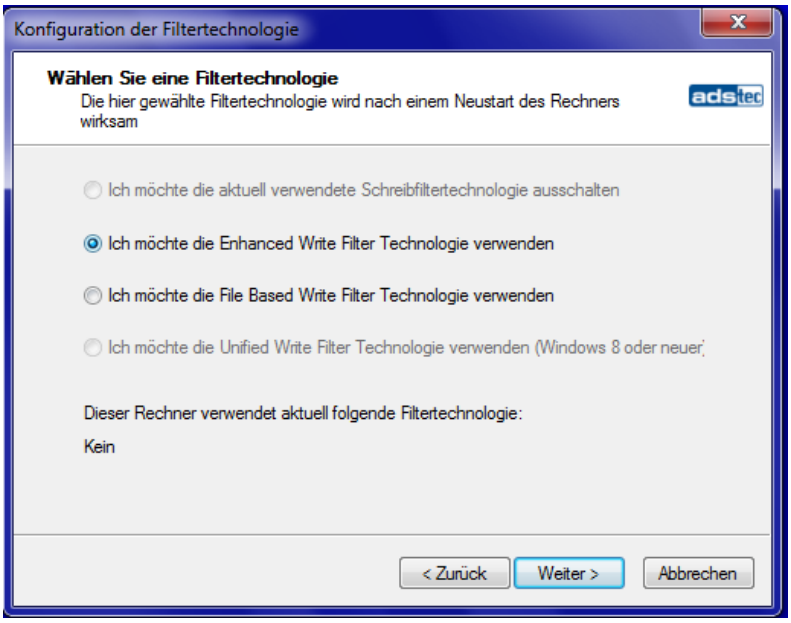
By default, no write filters are configured initially. A write filter technology must first be selected. The available technologies depend on the used operating system.
To select a write filter technology, right-click the background of FastStart in the drive view:



Select there the menu item "**Change filter type**"; a configuration wizard then appears:

Konfiguration der Filtertechnologie
Willkommen zum Assistenten für die Filtertypkonfiguration
Dieser Assistent wird Sie bei der Konfiguration des Schreibfiltertyps Ihrer Wahl unterstützen. Betätigen Sie die Schaltfläche "Weiter" um fortzufahren.
< Zurück
Weiter >
Abbrechen

Clicking **Next** opens the second page of this wizard**.**
The required write filter technology can be preselected here:


Konfiguration der Filtertechnologie
Wählen Sie eine Filtertechnologie
Die hier gewählte Filtertechnologie wird nach einem Neustart des Rechners wirksam
Ich möchte die aktuell verwendete Schreibfiltertechnologie ausschalten
Ich möchte die Enhanced Write Filter Technologie verwenden
Ich möchte die File Based Write Filter Technologie verwenden
Ich möchte die Unified Write Filter Technologie verwenden (Windows 8 oder neuer)
Dieser Rechner verwendet aktuell folgende Filtertechnologie:
Kein
< Zurück
Weiter >
Abbrechen

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The presetting which switches on the "**Enhanced Write Filter**" here in the example (depending on the Windows version) is selected. Confirming this page with **Next** opens the finish page of the wizard:

Konfiguration der Filtertechnologie
adstec
Abschluß des Assistenten für die Konfiguration des Filtertyps
BetätigenSie die Schaltfläche "Beenden" um folgende Änderungen durchzuführen:
Enhanced Write Filter verwenden
Ein Neustart des Rechners ist erforderlich, nachdem die Operation abgeschlossen ist.
< Zurück
Fertig stellen
Abbrechen

When this page is confirmed with **Finish**, the user is prompted to restart the system.

Information:

If the write filter technology is to be changed at a later time or the write filter is to be switched off across the entire system, this wizard can be called again and run through with different specifications.

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Following the restart, the write filter technology that is currently being used is then displayed on the page for drives and write filters:

Depending on the used write filter technology, the write protection is already activated for a hard drive ("**Enhanced Write Filter**") or must be activated or deactivated separately for each drive **("File based write filter**" and "**Unified Write Filter**").

In order to activate or deactivate the write protection in the latter case, right-click the drive tile and select the item **"Protect volume (run time)"** or **"Unprotect volume (design time)"** in the context menu.

Information:

If a padlock is visible in the top right corner of a drive tile, this means that a write filter is currently active for the drive.
When the mouse pointer is moved onto a drive tile, additional information about the drive is displayed.

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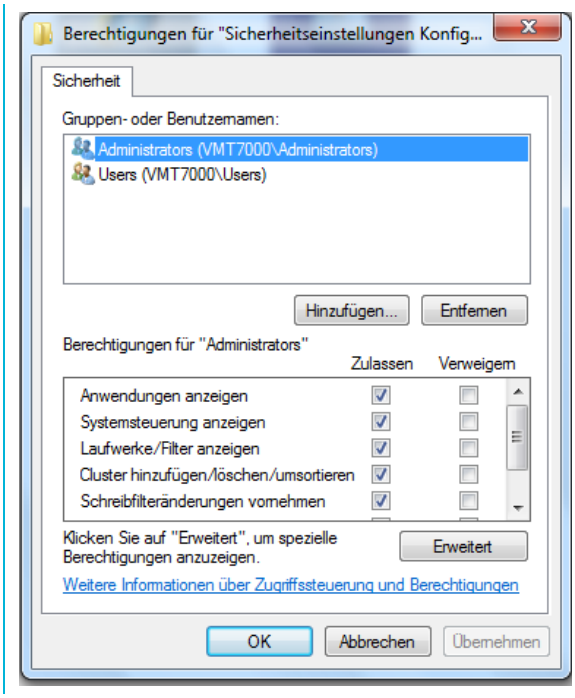
3.7 Assignment of rights with FastStart 2.0

The view showing the control panel applets and the drives for local administrators with elevated rights can be controlled as follows:
Firstly as a local administrator with elevated rights, right-click the background in the shell view and select the item "**Configuration**" in the context menu.
An authorization dialogue box then opens:



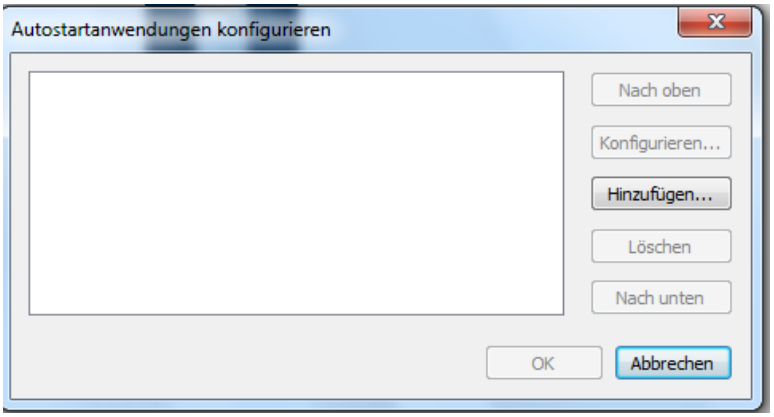
Here you can see that the options for displaying the shell, the control panel view and the drive view are set as user rights ("**Show programs**", "**Show control panel**" and "**Show drives/filters**").
By adding further security principals in this dialogue box and by allocating or removing rights, it is possible to achieve a fine-grained assignment of rights according to the semantics of Windows NT security.
Furthermore, it is also possible to make rights settings to allow changes to be made to the write filter ("**Make write filter changes**"), the clusters ("**Add/delete/reorder clusters**") and the autostart programs.

To change the visibility settings for an individual cluster, simply select the cluster name from the "**Cluster security...**" pop-up menu in the above-mentioned context menu.
For each individual cluster, the visibility is determined here using the user right **"Show Tiles"** and the editability using the user right "**Add/delete/reorder tiles**".

3.8 Autostart programs

If FastStart is operated in shell mode, i.e. with the command line "**/shell**", the autostart programs configured for FastStart are started.

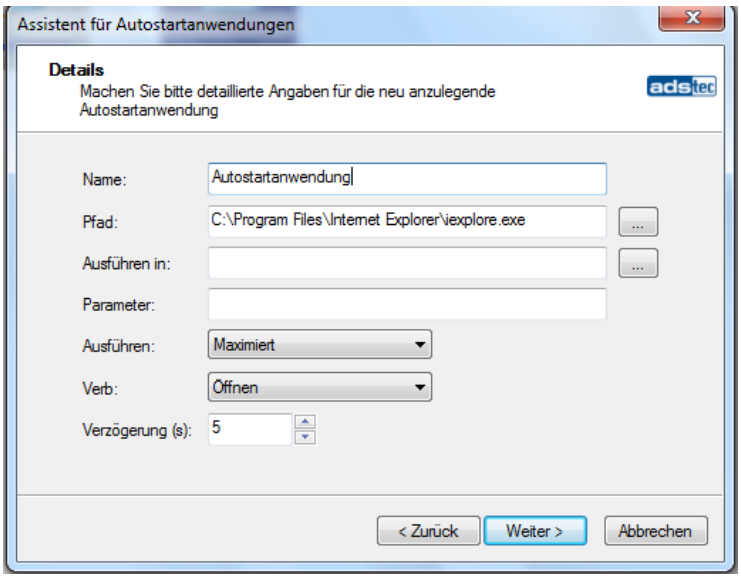
To create an autostart program, press the right mouse key and select the menu item "**Configure autostart programs**" in the context menu that then appears:



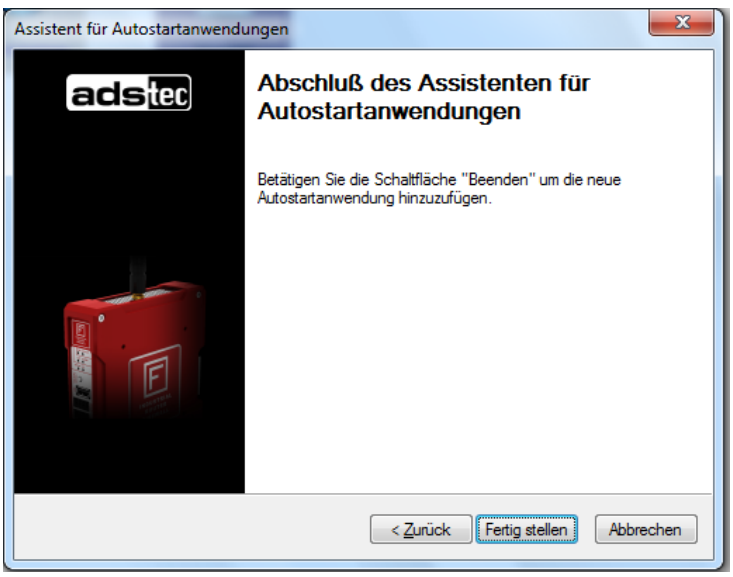
Pressing the "**Add**" button opens the wizard used to add autostart applications:

Assistent für Autostartanwendungen
adstec
Willkommen zum Assistenten für Autostartanwendungen
Dieser Assistent wird Sie beim Einrichten eines neuen Autostartprogramms unterstützen. Betätigen Sie die Schaltfläche "Weiter" um fortzufahren.
< Zurück
Weiter >
Abbrechen

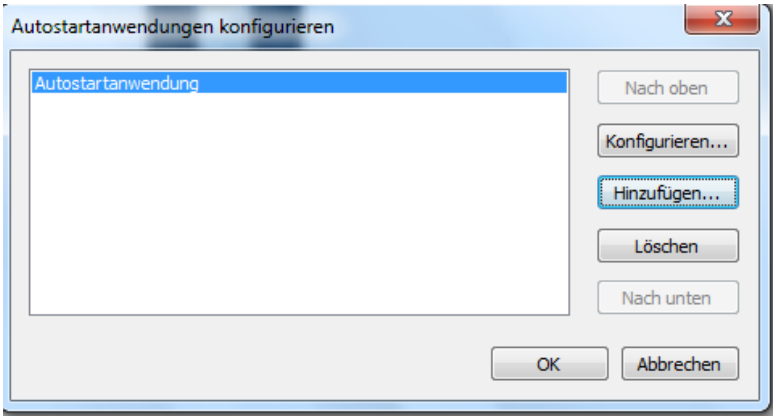
If you change from the Welcome page to the next page using **Next**, you can then enter specifications for the autostart application to be created:



The information entered on this wizard page is identical to the information for an individual tile.
"**Delay (s)**" is new. This is used to specify the number of seconds that is to be waited after this program is started until the next autostart program is started.
Confirming this page with **Next** opens the finish page of the wizard:



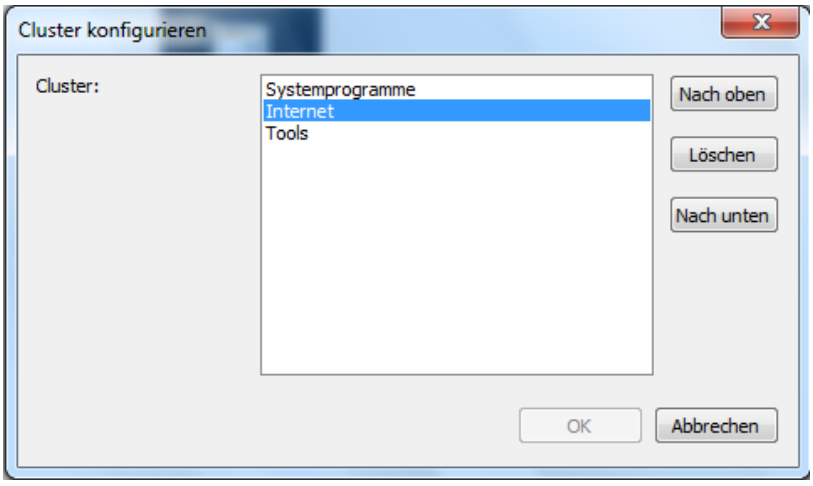
When the wizard is ended with **Finish**, a new entry for this autostart program is created in the dialogue box for the autostart programs:



Beginning with this dialogue box, it is now possible to create further autostart programs in a similar way and then accept them by confirming this dialogue box with **OK**.

3.9 Configuring clusters

To configure cluster, right-click the background of the shell view and then select the menu item "**Configure Clusters**".
A dialogue box like the one shown in the figure below then appears:



In this dialogue box, the order of clusters can be changed with **"Up"** or **"Down"** or individual clusters can be deleted with **"Delete"**.

4 Service & support

ads-tec and its partner companies offer you comprehensive maintenance and support services, ensuring quick and competent support should you have any questions or concerns with regard to ads-tec products and equipment.

Since the devices, as well as the preinstalled software from ads-tec, are also used by partner companies, these devices may have customised configurations. Should any questions arise with regard to such specific configurations and software installations, please contact the system supplier in question as ads-tec will not be able to answer such questions.

ads-tec does not provide support services for any device that was not purchased directly from ads-tec. In this case, maintenance and support is provided by the partner company.

4.1 ads-tec support

The ads-tec support team is available for inquiries from direct customers between 8:30am and 5:00pm, Monday to Friday.

The support team can be reached via phone, fax or e-mail:

Phone: +49 7022 2522-202
Fax: +49 7022 2522-400
Email: support@ads-tec.de

4.2 Company address

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